

# Automorphism Polynomials in Cyclic Cubic Extensions

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We provide simple proofs of the main results in the paper by Patrick Morton, “Characterizing Cyclic Cubic Extensions by Automorphism Polynomials” (*J. Number Theory* **49** (1994), 183–208), avoiding the use of computer algebra. © 1996 Academic Press, Inc.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

In [2] Morton considers cyclic cubic extensions  $F/\kappa$  of fields. If  $\sigma$  is a generator of the Galois group of this extension, he shows that if  $\theta \in F$  and  $\sigma(\theta) = \theta^2 + u$  ( $u \in \kappa$ ) then, provided  $\text{char } \kappa \neq 2$ ,  $u = -(1/4)(s^2 + 7)$  where  $s \in \kappa$  and the field  $F$  is determined by  $s$ . He also proves a theorem showing when two values of the parameter  $s \in \kappa$  give the same extension field and develops an analogue of Kummer theory, not assuming that  $\kappa$  contains the third roots of unity, describing the exponent 3 Abelian extensions of  $\kappa$ . However, some of his proofs rely on extensive Mathematica computation, and he asks if there are less computationally demanding proofs.

In this paper I relate Morton’s analogue of Kummer theory to classical Kummer theory and Artin–Schreier theory. In this way I provide much simpler proofs of Morton’s results.

## 2. THE GENERIC CASE

We first deal with the case where  $\text{char } \kappa \neq 3$  and  $\kappa$  does not have a primitive cube root of unity. In this case let  $\kappa' = \kappa(\zeta)$  where  $\zeta$  is a primitive cube root of unity. The extension  $\kappa'/\kappa$  is quadratic; let  $\tau$  be its non-trivial automorphism. If  $\lambda \in \kappa'$  for convenience we shall write  $\bar{\lambda} = \tau(\lambda)$ ,  $N(\lambda) = \lambda\bar{\lambda}$ , and  $T(\lambda) = \lambda + \bar{\lambda}$ .

If  $F/\kappa$  is a cyclic cubic extension, then  $F' = F(\zeta)$  is a cyclic cubic extension of  $\kappa'$  and a cyclic sextic extension of  $\kappa$ . Conversely each cyclic sextic

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extension of  $\kappa$  which contains  $\kappa'$  contains a unique cyclic cubic extension of  $\kappa$ . By using the Kummer theory of  $\kappa'$  we can identify all such extensions.

**PROPOSITION 1.** *Let  $\kappa$  be a field not of characteristic 3 and not containing a primitive cube root of unity, and let  $\kappa' = \kappa(\zeta)$  where  $\zeta$  is a primitive cube root of unity. Then a field  $F' \supseteq \kappa'$  is a cyclic sextic extension of  $\kappa$  if and only if  $F' = \kappa'(\beta)$  with  $\beta^3 = \delta^2 \bar{\delta}$  where  $\delta \in \kappa'$  and  $\delta^2 \bar{\delta}$  is not a cube in  $\kappa'$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $F' \supseteq \kappa'$  is a cyclic sextic extension of  $\kappa$ . Let  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  be automorphisms of  $F'/\kappa$  of degrees 3 and 2 respectively. Note that  $\tau$  restricts to the automorphism of  $\kappa'/\kappa$  that we have already labelled  $\tau$ . By Kummer theory (see, e.g., Lang [1, Chap. VIII, Sect. 8])  $F' = \kappa'(\beta)$  where  $\beta^3 = \alpha \in \kappa'^*$ ,  $\alpha$  is not a cube in  $\kappa'$ , and  $\sigma(\beta) = \zeta\beta$ . As the automorphisms  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  commute then

$$\sigma(\tau(\beta)) = \tau(\sigma(\beta)) = \tau(\zeta\beta) = \zeta^{-1}\tau(\beta).$$

If  $r = \beta\tau(\beta)$  then trivially  $\tau(r) = r$  and also

$$\sigma(r) = \sigma(\beta) \sigma(\tau(\beta)) = \beta\tau(\beta) = r.$$

Hence  $r \in \kappa$ . Also,

$$r^3 = \beta^3 \tau(\beta^3) = \alpha \bar{\alpha} = N(\alpha).$$

If we put  $\delta = \alpha/r$  then

$$N(\delta) = N(\alpha)/r^2 = r$$

and

$$\delta^2 \bar{\delta} = \alpha^2 \bar{\alpha}/r^3 = \alpha = \beta^3,$$

and so  $F'$  is of the claimed form.

Conversely suppose that  $\delta \in \kappa'$  and  $\delta^2 \bar{\delta}$  is not a cube in  $\kappa'$ . Then  $F' = \kappa'(\beta)$  where  $\beta^3 = \delta^2 \bar{\delta}$  is a cyclic cubic extension of  $\kappa'$  whose Galois group is generated by  $\sigma$  with  $\sigma(\beta) = \zeta\beta$ . If  $\beta' = N(\delta)/\beta$  then  $\beta'^3 = \delta \bar{\delta}^2 = \tau(\delta^2 \bar{\delta})$ . It is clear that we can extend the automorphism  $\tau$  of  $\kappa'/\kappa$  to a  $\kappa$ -automorphism of  $F'$  via  $\tau(\beta) = \beta'$ . As  $\tau(\beta') = \bar{\delta}\delta/\beta' = \beta$  then  $\tau$  has order 2. Also,

$$\tau(\sigma(\beta)) = \tau(\zeta\beta) = \zeta^{-1}\beta' = N(\delta)/(\zeta\beta) = \sigma(N(\delta)/\beta) = \sigma(\tau(\beta))$$

and so  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  commute. As  $\sigma$  has order 3, then the extension  $F'/\kappa$  is cyclic sextic. The proof is now complete. ■

For  $\delta \in \kappa'$  let  $F'_\delta = \kappa'(\beta)$  with  $\beta^3 = \delta^2 \bar{\delta}$ . If  $\delta^2 \bar{\delta}$  is not a cube in  $\kappa'$  then  $F'_\delta/\kappa$  contains a cubic subextension  $F_\delta/\kappa$ . We now seek to identify this extension.

**PROPOSITION 2.** *Let  $\delta \in \kappa'$  with  $\delta^2 \bar{\delta}$  not a cube in  $\kappa'$ . Then  $F_\delta = \kappa(\psi)$  where  $\psi$  has minimal polynomial*

$$X^3 - 3N(\delta)X - N(\delta)T(\delta).$$

over  $\kappa$ .

*Proof.* Note that  $F_\delta$  is the fixed field of  $\tau$  acting on  $F'_\delta$ . If  $\psi = \beta + \tau(\beta) = \beta + N(\delta)/\beta$  then certainly  $\psi \in F'_\delta$ .

As  $\beta$  and  $\tau(\beta)$  are the roots of  $x^2 - \psi x + N(\delta) = 0$ , then  $F'_\delta$  is quadratic over  $\kappa(\psi)$  and so  $F_\delta = \kappa(\psi)$ . Now

$$\psi^3 = \beta^3 + \tau(\beta)^3 + 3\beta\tau(\beta)(\beta + \tau(\beta)) = \delta^2 \bar{\delta} + \delta \bar{\delta}^2 + 3\delta \bar{\delta} \psi$$

and so the minimal polynomial of  $\psi$  over  $\kappa$  is

$$X^3 - 3N(\delta)X - N(\delta)T(\delta). \quad \blacksquare$$

To relate this element  $\psi$  to the element  $\theta$  constructed by Morton, we need to work out the action of the automorphisms of  $F_\delta/k$  on  $\psi$ .

**PROPOSITION 3.** *Let  $\delta = a + b\bar{\zeta} \in \kappa'$  with  $\delta^2 \bar{\delta}$  not a cube in  $\kappa'$ . If  $\sigma$  is the automorphism of  $F'_\delta/\kappa'$  taking  $\beta$  to  $\zeta\beta$  then*

$$\sigma(\psi) = \frac{1}{b}(\psi^2 - a\psi - 2N(\delta))$$

and

$$\sigma^2(\psi) = \frac{1}{b}(-\psi^2 + (a-b)\psi + 2N(\delta)).$$

*Proof.* We calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \psi^2 &= \beta^2 + \tau(\beta)^2 + 2\beta\tau(\beta) \\ &= \delta^2 \bar{\delta}/\beta + \delta \bar{\delta}^2/\tau(\beta) + 2N(\delta) \\ &= \delta\tau(\beta) + \bar{\delta}\beta + 2N(\delta) \\ &= a\psi + b(\bar{\zeta}\tau(\beta) + \zeta\beta) + 2N(\delta). \end{aligned}$$

But as  $\sigma(\psi) = \zeta\beta + \bar{\zeta}\tau(\beta)$  then

$$\sigma(\psi) = \frac{1}{b}(\psi^2 - a\psi - 2N(\delta)).$$

As the  $X^2$ -term in the minimal polynomial of  $\psi$  vanishes, it is immediate that

$$\sigma^2(\psi) = -\psi - \sigma(\psi) = \frac{1}{b}(-\psi^2 + (a-b)\psi + 2N(\delta)). \quad \blacksquare$$

Suppose also that  $\text{char } \kappa \neq 2$ . If we put  $\theta = \psi/b - a/2b$  then a straightforward computation gives

$$\sigma(\theta) = \theta^2 - \frac{8N(\delta) + a^2 + 2ab}{4b^2} = \theta^2 - \frac{9a^2 - 6ab + 8b^2}{4b^2}$$

and that

$$\theta^3 + \frac{3a}{2b}\theta^2 + \frac{3(a^2 - 4N(\delta))}{4b^2}\theta + \frac{a^3 - 12aN(\delta) - N(\delta)T(\delta)}{8b^3} = 0.$$

If we choose  $\delta = s + 2 + 3\zeta = s - 1 - 3\bar{\zeta}$  we get

$$\sigma(\theta) = \theta^2 - \frac{1}{4}(s^2 + 7)$$

and

$$\theta^3 + \frac{1}{2}(1-s)\theta^2 - \frac{1}{4}(s^2 + 2s + 9)\theta + \frac{1}{8}(s^3 + s^2 + 7s - 1) = 0.$$

This shows that  $\theta + \sigma(\theta) + \sigma^2(\theta) = (1/2)(s-1)$  and so

$$\sigma^2(\theta) = -\theta^2 - \theta + \frac{1}{4}(s^2 + 2s + 5),$$

giving the equations (2) and (3) of [2].

We now turn to the question of when two values of  $\delta$  give the same field.

**PROPOSITION 4.** *If  $\delta \in \kappa'^*$  then  $\delta^2\bar{\delta}$  is a cube in  $\kappa'$  if and only if  $\delta \in \kappa^*(\kappa'^*)^3$ . Let  $\delta_1, \delta_2 \in \kappa'^*$ . The fields  $F_{\delta_1}$  and  $F_{\delta_2}$  are equal if and only if  $\delta_1/\delta_2 \in \kappa^*(\kappa'^*)^3$  or  $\delta_1/\bar{\delta}_2 \in \kappa^*(\kappa'^*)^3$ .  $\blacksquare$*

*Proof.* If  $\delta = r\gamma^3$  with  $r \in \kappa$  and  $\gamma \in \kappa'$ , then  $\delta^2\bar{\delta} = (r\gamma^2\bar{\gamma})^3$ . Conversely, if  $\delta^2\bar{\delta} = \eta^3$  with  $\eta \in \kappa'$  then  $\delta = N(\delta)^{-1}\eta^3 \in \kappa^*(\kappa'^*)^3$ .

Now  $F_{\delta_1} = F_{\delta_2}$  if and only if  $F'_{\delta_1} = F'_{\delta_2}$ . By Kummer theory this holds if and only if  $(\delta_1^2 \bar{\delta}_1)/(\delta_2^2 \bar{\delta}_2)^{\pm 1} \in (\kappa'^*)^3$ . But  $(\delta_1^2 \bar{\delta}_1)/(\delta_2^2 \bar{\delta}_2) = (\delta_1/\delta_2)^2 (\bar{\delta}_1/\bar{\delta}_2) \in (\kappa'^*)^3$  if and only if  $\delta_1/\delta_2 \in \kappa^*(\kappa'^*)^3$ . Similarly,  $(\delta_1^2 \bar{\delta}_1)(\delta_2^2 \bar{\delta}_2) = (\delta_1 \delta_2)^2 (\bar{\delta}_1 \bar{\delta}_2) \in (\kappa'^*)^3$  if and only if  $\delta_1 \delta_2 \in \kappa^*(\kappa'^*)^3$ . As  $\delta_2 \bar{\delta}_2 \in \kappa$  this happens if and only if  $\delta_1/\bar{\delta}_2 \in \kappa^*(\kappa'^*)^3$ . ■

**COROLLARY 1.** (a) Suppose that  $\text{char } \kappa \neq 2$ . If  $\delta = s + 2 + 3\zeta$  ( $s \in \kappa$ ) then  $\delta^2 \bar{\delta} \in \kappa'^3$  if and only if there exists  $t \in \kappa$  ( $t \neq \pm 1$ ) with

$$s = \frac{t^3 - t^2 - 9t + 1}{2(t^2 - 1)}.$$

In general, even if the characteristic of  $\kappa$  is 2, then  $\delta^2 \bar{\delta} \in \kappa'^3$  if and only if there exists  $p \in \kappa$  ( $p \neq 0, \pm 1$ ) with

$$s = \frac{1 - 2p - p^2 + p^3}{p - p^2}.$$

(b) Let  $\delta_1 = s + 2 + 3\zeta$  and  $\delta_2 = v + 2 + 3\zeta$  ( $s, v \in \kappa$ ). Then  $F_{\delta_1} = F_{\delta_2}$  if and only if there exists  $p \in \kappa$  such that either

$$v = \frac{s(p^3 - p^2 - 2p + 1) + 7p^2 - 7p}{s(-p^2 + p) + p^3 - 2p^2 - p + 1}$$

or

$$v = -\frac{s(p^3 - 2p^2 - p + 1) + p^3 + 5p^2 - 8p + 1}{s(-p^2 + p) + p^3 - 2p^2 - p + 1}.$$

*Proof.* (a) By the proposition  $\delta^2 \bar{\delta}$  is a cube if and only if  $\delta = r\eta^3$  with  $r \in \kappa$  and  $\eta \in \kappa'$ . Certainly  $\eta \notin \kappa$  and so, absorbing a factor in  $\kappa$  into  $r$ , we may assume that  $\eta = t + \sqrt{-3}$  (where  $\zeta = (1/2)(-1 + \sqrt{-3})$ ). Hence

$$\eta^3 = t^3 - 9t + (t^2 - 1)3\sqrt{-3} = t^3 + 3t^2 - 9t - 3 + 6(t^2 - 1)\zeta$$

which is a  $\kappa$ -multiple of  $s + 2 + 3\zeta$  if and only if

$$s + 2 = \frac{t^3 + 3t^2 - 9t - 3}{2(t^2 - 1)},$$

i.e.,

$$s = \frac{t^3 - t^2 - 9t + 1}{2(t^2 - 1)}.$$

Alternatively we may suppose that  $\eta = 1 + p\zeta$  (if  $\eta/\zeta \in \kappa$  then  $\eta^3 \in \kappa$  which is false). Then

$$\eta^3 = 1 + 3p\zeta + 3p^2\zeta^2 + p^3 = 1 - 3p^2 + p^3 + 3(p - p^2)\zeta$$

which is a  $\kappa$ -multiple of  $s + 2 + 3\zeta$  if and only if

$$s + 2 = \frac{1 - 3p^2 + p^3}{p - p^2},$$

i.e.,

$$s = \frac{1 - 2p - p^2 + p^3}{p - p^2}.$$

(b) First suppose that  $r \in \kappa$  and  $\eta \in \kappa'$  and  $\delta_2 = r\eta^3\delta_1$ . If  $\eta$  is a  $\kappa$ -multiple of  $\zeta$  then  $\eta^3 \in \kappa$  and we swiftly get  $v = s$ . Otherwise we may assume that  $\eta = 1 + p\zeta$  ( $p \in \kappa$ ). We calculate

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_1\eta^3 &= (s + 2 + 3\zeta)(1 + p\zeta)^3 \\ &= (s + 2 + 3\zeta)(1 + p^3 + 3p\zeta + 3p^2\zeta^2) \\ &= [(s + 2)(1 + p^3) + 9p^2] + [3(s + 2)p + 3(1 + p^3)]\zeta \\ &\quad + [3(s + 2)p^2 + 9p]\zeta^2 \\ &= [s(p^3 - 3p^2 + 1) + 2p^3 + 3p^2 - 9p + 2] \\ &\quad + 3[s(-p^2 + p) + p^3 - 2p^2 - p + 1]\zeta \end{aligned}$$

which is a  $\kappa$ -multiple of  $\delta_2 = v + 2 + 3\zeta$  if and only if

$$v + 2 = \frac{s(p^3 - 3p^2 + 1) + 2p^3 + 3p^2 - 9p + 2}{s(-p^2 + p) + p^3 - 2p^2 - p + 1},$$

i.e.,

$$v = \frac{s(p^3 - p^2 - 2p + 1) + 7p^2 - 7p}{s(-p^2 + p) + p^3 - 2p^2 - p + 1}.$$

Now if  $\delta_1/\delta_2 \in \kappa^*(\kappa'^*)^3$  then  $\delta_2 = r\overline{\eta^3\delta_1}$  where  $r \in \kappa$  and we may assume that  $\eta = 1 + p\zeta$  ( $p \in \kappa$ ). Repeating the above computation yields  $\delta_2 = t(v' + 2 + 3\zeta)$  where  $t \in \kappa$  and

$$v' = \frac{s(p^3 - p^2 - 2p + 1) + 7p^2 - 7p}{s(-p^2 + p) + p^3 - 2p^2 - p + 1}.$$

But as  $(v' + 2 + 3\zeta) = v' - 1 - 3\zeta$  then  $t = -1$  and

$$v = -1 - v' = -\frac{s(p^3 - 2p^2 - p + 1) + p^3 + 5p^2 - 8p + 1}{s(-p^2 + p) + p^3 - 2p^2 - p + 1}. \blacksquare$$

We now consider the subfields of the compositum of two cyclic cubic extensions.

**PROPOSITION 5.** *Let  $F_{\delta_1}$  and  $F_{\delta_2}$  be two distinct cyclic cubic extensions of  $\kappa$  where  $\delta_1 = s + 2 + 3\zeta$  and  $\delta_2 = t + 2 + 3\zeta$  ( $s, t \in \kappa$ ). Then the other two cubic subextensions of the compositum  $F_{\delta_1} \cdot F_{\delta_2}$  are  $F_{\delta_3}$  and  $F_{\delta_4}$  where*

$$\delta_3 = \frac{st - 7}{s + t + 1} + 2 + 3\zeta$$

and

$$\delta_4 = \frac{st + t + 7}{s - t} + 2 + 3\zeta.$$

*Proof.* By Kummer theory the cubic subextensions of  $(F'_{\delta_1} \cdot F'_{\delta_2})/\kappa'$  are  $F'_{\delta_1}, F'_{\delta_2}, \kappa'(((\delta_1^2 \bar{\delta}_1)(\delta_2^2 \bar{\delta}_2))^{1/3}) = F'_{\delta_1 \delta_2}$  and  $\kappa'(((\delta_1^2 \bar{\delta}_1)^{-1}(\delta_2^2 \bar{\delta}_2))^{1/3}) = F'_{\bar{\delta}_1 \delta_2}$ . Hence the cubic extensions  $\kappa$  we seek are  $F_{\delta_1 \delta_2}$  and  $F_{\bar{\delta}_1 \delta_2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_1 \delta_2 &= (s + 2 + 3\zeta)(t + 2 + 3\zeta) \\ &= (s + 2)(t + 2) + 3(s + t + 4)\zeta + 9\zeta^2 \\ &= (st + 2s + 2t - 5) + 3(s + t + 1)\zeta \\ &= (s + t + 1) \left( \frac{st - 7}{s + t + 1} + 2 + 3\zeta \right). \end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\delta}_1 \delta_2 &= (s + 2 + 3\bar{\zeta})(t + 2 + 3\zeta) \\ &= (s + 2)(t + 2) + 9 + 3(s + 2)\zeta + 3(t + 2)\bar{\zeta} \\ &= (st + 2s - t + 7) + 3(s - t)\zeta \\ &= (s - t) \left( \frac{st + t + 7}{s - t} + 2 + 3\zeta \right). \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

## 3. EXCEPTIONAL CASES

We briefly deal here with the two exceptional cases: the first is where  $\kappa$  contains a primitive cube root  $\zeta$  of unity, and the second is where  $\text{char } \kappa = 3$ . If  $\zeta \in \kappa$  then put  $\bar{\zeta} = \zeta^2$ . If  $F/\kappa$  is a cyclic extension whose Galois group is generated by  $\sigma$ , then the action of  $\sigma$  splits  $F$  into three eigenspaces  $F_0 = \kappa$ ,  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ , each of  $\kappa$ -dimension one, where

$$F_j = \{x \in F: \sigma(x) = \zeta^j x\}.$$

Note that the trace map from  $F$  to  $\kappa$  vanishes on  $F_1$  and  $F_2$ . If  $\psi = \beta_1 + \beta_2$  is a typical element of  $F_1 \oplus F_2$  with  $\beta_i \in F_i$ , then  $\sigma(\beta_1 \beta_2) = \beta_1 \beta_2$  so that  $\beta_1 \beta_2 \in \kappa$ . Also,  $\beta_1^3 = \alpha_1 \in \kappa$  and  $\beta_2^3 = \alpha_2 \in \kappa$ . If  $\beta_1 = 0$  then  $\sigma(\psi) = \bar{\zeta} \psi$  and the automorphism polynomials of  $u + v\psi$  are linear for all  $u, v \in \kappa$ . A similar phenomenon happens when  $\beta_2 = 0$ . Suppose that  $\beta_1 \beta_2 \neq 0$ . Then  $\alpha_1 = \delta_1^2 \delta_2$  and  $\alpha_2 = \delta_1 \delta_2^2$  where  $\delta_j = \alpha_j / (\beta_1 \beta_2)$ . We let  $\kappa'$  be the algebra  $\kappa \times \kappa$ . Consider  $\kappa$  as a subring of  $\kappa'$  via the embedding  $x \mapsto (x, x)$ . Then  $\kappa' = \kappa[\zeta]$  where  $\zeta = (\zeta, \bar{\zeta})$ . Now  $\psi = \psi(\delta)$  is determined by  $\delta = (\delta_1, \delta_2) \in \kappa'^*$ , and  $\delta_1^2 \delta_2 \in \kappa'^{*3}$  if and only if  $\delta_1 \delta_2^2 \in \kappa'^{*3}$  if and only if  $\delta \in \kappa'^* \cdot \kappa'^{*3}$ . Also,  $\kappa(\psi(\delta')) = \kappa(\psi(\delta))$  if and only if  $\delta' \delta^{\pm 1} \in \kappa'^* \cdot \kappa'^{*3}$ . Choosing  $\delta = s + 2 + 3\zeta$  gives all non-trivial extensions. Also, if  $\delta' \delta^{-1} \in \kappa'^* \cdot \kappa'^{*3}$  we can write  $\delta' = r(1 + p\zeta)^3 \delta$  with  $r, p \in \beta$ , but to ensure that  $(1 + p\zeta) \neq 0$  we need the extra stipulation that  $p \neq -\zeta$  or  $-\bar{\zeta}$ . We can now obtain the analogues of all the results in the previous section.

Now suppose that  $\kappa$  has characteristic 3. Let  $F$  be a cyclic cubic extension of  $\kappa$ , and let  $\sigma$  be a generator of its Galois group. By Artin-Schreier theory  $F = \kappa(\alpha)$  where  $\sigma(\alpha) = \alpha + 1$  and  $\alpha^3 - \alpha = \gamma \in \kappa$ . The  $\kappa$ -subspace of trace zero elements of  $L$  is generated by 1 and  $\alpha$ , and it is easy to see that  $\sigma(x)$  is linear in  $x$  whenever  $x$  lies in this space. Consider  $\beta = \alpha^2$ , so  $\sigma(\beta) = \alpha^2 - \alpha + 1$ . But

$$\beta^2 = \alpha^4 = \alpha(\alpha + \gamma) = \beta + \gamma\alpha$$

and so  $\alpha = (\beta^2 - \beta)/\gamma$ . It follows that

$$\sigma(\beta) = \frac{\beta}{\alpha} + \frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha} \beta + 1$$

and so if  $\theta = (v + 1 - \alpha)/\alpha$  then

$$\sigma(\theta) = \theta^2 + \frac{\alpha^2 + \alpha - 1}{\alpha^2} = \theta^2 - \left[ \left( \frac{1 + \alpha}{\alpha} \right)^2 + 1 \right].$$



Thus we define  $s = (1 + \alpha)/\alpha$  so that  $\alpha = 1/(s - 1)$ . Note that  $\beta + \sigma(\beta) + \sigma^2(\beta) = \alpha^2 + (\alpha + 1)^2 + (\alpha - 1)^2 = -1$  so that  $\theta + \sigma(\theta) + \sigma^2(\theta) = -1/\alpha = 1 - s$ . It follows that

$$\sigma^2(\theta) = -\theta^2 - \theta + (s^2 - s - 1).$$

The condition that  $L$  be a non-trivial extension of  $\kappa$  is that  $\alpha \neq r^3 - r$  for  $r \in \kappa$ . But  $\alpha = r^3 - r$  implies that

$$s = \frac{r^3 - r + 1}{r(r^2 - 1)} = -\frac{t^3 - t^2 + 1}{t^2 - 1}$$

if  $t = 1/r$ . Also, two values of the  $s$  parameter,  $s$  and  $v$ , say, give the same field if and only if  $1/(v - 1) = \pm 1/(s - 1) + u^3 - u$  where  $u \in \kappa$ . With the  $+$  sign this gives

$$v = \frac{s(u^3 - u + 1) - (u^3 - u)}{s(u^3 - u) - (u^3 - u - 1)}$$

or, setting  $u = 1/(p + 1)$ ,

$$v = \frac{s(p^3 - p^2 + p + 1) + (p^2 - p)}{-s(p^2 - p) + (p^3 + p^2 - p + 1)}.$$

Similarly, the  $-$  sign gives

$$v = \frac{s(p^3 + p^2 - p + 1) + (p^3 - p^2 + p + 1)}{-s(p^2 - p) + (p^3 + p^2 - p + 1)}.$$

If we look at the compositum of the extensions with parameters  $s$  and  $t$ , the parameters  $v$  and  $w$  of its other cubic subextensions are given by  $1/(v - 1) = 1/(s - 1) + 1/(t - 1)$  and  $1/(w - 1) = 1/(t - 1) - 1/(s - 1)$ , yielding

$$v = \frac{st - 1}{s + t + 1} \quad \text{and} \quad w = \frac{st + t + 1}{s - t}.$$

## REFERENCES

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